#### Weather





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Monday July 23, 2001 Vol 2, No 3

# <u>Trooper Hill</u>

Published for the servicemembers supporting the 2001 National Scout Jamboree

# Festivities show appreciation to troops for work

**By Spc. Jeffrey Keown** 372<sup>nd</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The warm July afternoon sun slowly drifts down into the trees as the lightly sloping hillside awakens underneath the feet of thousands of people. The crowd has arrived to alleviate the stress of the past week's toil. They've come to relax, celebrate, and be entertained.

The 2001 National Scout Jamboree will officially begin today. The volunteers, staff, dignitaries, and servicemembers attended the arena show here Sunday to take in the festivities and some enjoyment from their hard work, getting a little refreshment for their souls before 40,000 Scouts invade arrive.

"I had a great time. I give it two thumbs up. The Scouts did a great job putting this show together," said Staff Sgt. Ted A. Marlatt, a squad leader with the 511th Military Police Company, Fort Drum, N.Y.

Although most servicemembers supporting the jamboree were enjoying the show, some found themselves at work during the event. Military police were on guard duty patrolling the backstage area.

"Even though I was working, I still thought it was a great show," said Pfc. Nathan M. Ditton, an MP with the 352nd Military Police Company, Rockville, Md.

Leaders and team members within the Scout organization recognize the vital role the Army is playing in facilitating this event.

"They've done a great job in supporting the Scouts," said James A. Thoma, show coordinator for the Boy Scouts of America. "From logistical support to skill instruction,

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# 3, 2, 1, freefall for all



Photo by Pfc. Casandra M. Bolton

Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne All American Freefall Team perform a "drop" Sunday evening.

By Pfc. Casandra M. Bolton

372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

As they leaned over the edge of an "old" Huey at 10,000 feet, the 82d Airborne All American Freefall Team prepared to demonstrate parachute drops for some 7,000 volunteers and supporters of the National Scout Jamboree, Sunday at the Arena Show here.

The AAFT is the official parachute

demonstration team of America's Guard of Honor. The first member of the team steps out onto one of the landing skids. Three, two, one and they are off. Streams of red fill the sky as the members dropped towards their landing target at the Arena. The chutes opened at approximately 4,000 feet above their target.

The Huey transported the members of

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# K-9 unit put to use at jamboree

By Pfc. Casandra M. Bolton

372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The leash is unfastened and a toy is thrown in the air. Where it lands, nobody knows. It hits the ground, rolls and then it stops. Two soldiers move towards the toy. One is running and the other is walking. One is Sgt. James Crane, dog handler with the 34th Military Police Detachment, Fort Knox, Ky., and the other is his partner, Nessy, German Shepherd K-9. Nessy retrieves the kong, a beehive shaped toy, and returns to her master for another toss.

The military dog unit is here to ensure safety and make sure that it's enforced.

Patrol work is the first part of the course. During this course the handlers learn obedience, health and grooming, and the basic skills of a patrol dog. The second part of the course is explosive detection training.

When they come out of the course they are certified to handle either a drug or a bomb dog. It all depends on the needs of their unit. They are given a skill identifier and that stays with them the whole time they are in the service unless they choose to change it. Kennel Master School is available for the dog handlers so they could become qualified to be in charge of their own K-9 unit.

"During training, it was tough because I had a brand new dog that didn't know anything," said Crane. "So there I was learning how to train the dog and the dog didn't even know the basics."

Crane attended Lackland Air Force Base School for Dog Training located in San Antonio, Texas. The training for the course he attended is 436 hours long, approximately 2 ½ months.

"The courses are challenging when you want the dog to do one thing and he doesn't obey," said Sgt. Steve Caruso, military working dog handler with the 252nd Military Police Detachment located in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Caruso's partner is Bony, a German Shepard K-9.

"The courses are challenging when you want the dog to do one thing and he doesn't obey," said Caruso.

There are approximately 300 experienced working dog masters in the Army today, according to Caruso.

The dogs have mandatory training four hours per week. They



Sgt. Steve Caruso, MP K9 handler for the 252nd Military Police Detachment, Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., gives his partner, Bony, a command.

Photo by Spc. Jeffrey S. Keown

are required to reach 95 percent accuracy, if not 100 percent accuracy before they become officials in the narcotics and explosives detection divisions.

The two dogs here are currently explosive military working dogs. Nessy and Bony are currently interview shy.

"This is the best job that there is in the military," said Crane. Caruso added, "You always look forward to coming to work."

The dogs are experienced in searching water jugs, blasting caps, dynamite, and smokeless powder, according to Lt. Lori A. Feeley, a Department of the Army civilian police officer. The training of the dogs is determinate based on the dogs' disposition. The dogs are also trained at Lackland.

These special K-9's are treated just as if they were enlisted personnel in the Army and they also receive awards that are achievable among enlisted personnel.

Although they are soldiers, there is no dining facility food for these two. Bony consumes EN Purina in his daily diet, while Nessy consumes Science Diet.

While the military dogs are here, they reside in the room with their masters, but back at their units the dogs stay in kennels while not on duty.

Coincidently, the 'Army of One' does not pertain to one species. Man's best friends turns out to be a soldier's best partner.

## Safety Thoughts

- · Let's all work together for safety.
- Safety—a prescription for a long life.
- Safety–a habit you can live with.

- Rain on hot pavement is like ice in July.
- One safe mile at a time. It all adds up!
- An accident can cripple your income!

## <u>Trooper Hill</u>

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## Military police soldiers ride in style

By Spc. Todd Edwards

372<sup>nd</sup> Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

For most Americans, a bicycle is a symbol of leisure. Perhaps to some people, it is thought of as a vital means of transport, but few think initially of the bicycle as a law enforcement tool.

That may change in the hearts and minds of some Boy Scouts attending the 2001 National Scout Jamboree. The presence of yellow-shirted Army Reserve military police and Department of the Army police bicycle patrols are as common as the green and red knee socks of the Scouts themselves. Although their numbers are not great, their rapid and flexible movement amplify the presence they project upon the throngs of Scouts and support personnel.

Some of the duties of the force are related to crowd control, such as traffic control and direction, and conflict management between individuals.

This community policing is designed to protect everyone moving through and staying in the area designated for the jamboree, said Officer Rick Saldivar, a Department of the Army policeman and two-year veteran at A.P. Hill. Saldivar is also a mountain bike racer in his spare time.

The opportunity to make an impression is not lost on him however.

"You get to be a role model for the Boy Scouts and set a good example," Saldivar said. "We're all professionals out here, good types of people you would want to be around, something for a young person to aspire to."

Working with the Army Reserve military police has also been a positive experience, Saldivar said.

"They are a great big help, they are highly motivated, willing to learn and do whatever the job entails," said Saldivar.

For the reservists, the close interaction with the public is a reward of itself, according to Sgt. Scott Rinehart, with the 442nd Military Police Company Akron, Ohio.

"They really support us as much as we support them," Rinehart said.

With the community support they are experiencing, it's not surprising that the Military Police also view themselves as fortunate to work in their field.

"We're lucky to be able to interact with people like we do," Rinehart said.

Answering questions about his job from curious Scouts is also a perk above his standard duties, according to Staff Sgt. Eric Linkhart, a member of the 342nd MP Company Columbus, Ohio.

"I like this better, people are more apt to talk to you," said Linkhart.

Giving their job high praise is extraordinary when viewed in perspective. Inherent hardship isn't in the equation for these people.

Twenty-plus miles a day, tempera-

tures in the 90's and 12-hour shifts are the dish these teammates are served. Despite this, a good attitude seems to come with the yellow shirt.

"We're here for them [Scouts]," said Spc. Tom Majercak, an MP with the 342nd. "We've been entrusted with their safety," He said.

By using the bicycle, these enforcers of the law have brought it into the arsenal of



Photo by Spc. Todd Edwards

Staff Sgt. Eric Linkhart works on a taillight with the help of Sgt. Scott Rinehart and Spc. Tom Majercak prior to their evening patrol.

law enforcement. Perhaps one of them will be the first member of the law enforcement community to respond to an emergency due to their high mobility over varied terrain, perhaps not.

It is possible that their high visibility will inspire youth to pursue the same path and render the same service. Their presence alone validates the bicycle officers, but the possibilities make them valuable.

## Fort A.P. Hill Chaplain Services

- Sunday Collective Services ...July 22, 29 and August 5; 11 AM until Noon ... Building 1652
- Bible Study and Fellowship every Wednesday
   730 PM until 830 PM ... Building 1653
- Counseling Session ... Noon until 3 PM ...
   Chaplain's Office ...Building 1653, phone number 8631
- Pastoral Care Available ... 24 hours a day, seven days a week

## Morning spirit run draws over 100 soldiers

By Spc. Mark S. Rickert

372d Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

There are many things a volunteer is willing to do, but how many volunteers will participate in a 4 mile run before the sun has had a chance to rise? Probably not many, but when those volunteers are soldiers, you can count on a good turnout.

So why would this particular volunteer run bring in over 100 participants, including A.P. Hill's post commander? Why all the hype? Because today's run concentrated on more than just physical fitness. The run focussed on uniting Christian soldiers and bringing about spiritual awareness.

Lt. Col. Craig N. Wiley, department staff chaplain, with the First Army, Fort Gillem, GA., was invited to speak to the soldiers before the run. The four-miler was designed to introduce a spiritual perspective within the soldiers during morning PT and Wiley added his support.

"Our endeavor was to go along with the usual training while showing the relationship between physical fitness and spiritual fitness," said Wiley.

Wiley explained the importance of spirituality and why soldiers need to focus their spiritual awareness during PT.

"The human being consists of mind, body and soul. All aspects of fitness are important, but spiritual fitness is the aspect of life that makes a person whole," said Wiley. "That's why we encourage the physical, intellectual and spiritual aspect of fitness."

According to Wiley, this way of leaning toward the soldier's need of spiritual aware-

ness has often been stressed in the past.

"Even famous leaders believe that the soldier's spirit is their most important aspect," said Wiley. "Gen. George C. Marshal says that a soldier's soul is more important than his physical well-being or his equipment. Without the soldier's soul, the soldier will fail himself and his country. Those are strong words. He knew the importance of spiritual fitness," Wiley said.

Being aware of this spiritual need within the soldiers has motivated Wiley into action. He expresses his determination to make sure the soldiers seek out their faith and make that a priority in their lives.

"Soldiers need to have a 'God conscious.' I think most of us take for granted what God has given us. We go through life without thanking God for what He's given to us," said Wiley. "A tremendous amount of people are super athletes, but they don't pray. They are impressed with their bodies, but they don't glorify God. We want to bring the God consciousness to the surface and make that a high priority in the soldier's lives."

In his short speech to the soldiers, Wiley motivated the soldiers with inspiring words, scripture and famous quotations.

"The speech before the run was motivating and inspirational. I think it fired up the run," said Sgt.1st class Charles Turner, Military Jamboree Support Center's 1st Sgt.

Practicing spiritual fitness is nothing new for Wiley and neither is running. He enjoys running, especially when he's running at Fort A.P. Hill.

"I ran one marathon and did a half marathon. I did numerous 10ks and 5ks,"



Photo by Staff Sgt. Melissa V. Rolan and Spc. Justin Jezari

Lt. Col. John Dumoulin, Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Craig N Wiley and Chaplain (Capt.) Sun Y. Macupa lead the spirit run.

said Wiley.

Wiley admits running gives him mental, physical and spiritual strength.

"I enjoy the health factor of running. I know I'm doing something good for my heart and keeping my body fit," said Wiley. "I feel like I am a better human for God when I am fit. When I am fit, I can be a better benefit to God, my family, and my job. Plus, running gives me the energy needed to get things done."

Chaplain (Capt.) Sun S. Macupa with the 7th Transportation Battalion, 507th Corpse Support Group, 1st Coscom, worked hard to bring the event together and was pleased with the turnout.

"I think the run was a success. I want every one to come together as brothers and sisters: Army, Navy, Air Force—what ever. People are here from different places and different branches. I want us all to be one."

## Coast Guard hopes to gain military support from Scouts

By Mark S. Rickert

372d Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The U.S. Coast Guard has set up shop here within the Army Adventure area and they're ready to impress. The station has a wide display of equipment, including a patrol boat parked outside the tent. Hoping for positive exposure, the Coast Guard eagerly awaits the Scouts.

Even though the Coast Guard is hoping to influence many of the Scouts, their main purpose, according to Petty Officer 3rd Class William Farias, port security with the Port Support Unit 307, St. Petersburg, Fla., is not to persuade the Scouts into a particular decision but to support the military as a whole.

The Guard's mission is as clear as coastal waters, and they're excited about the exposure.

"Our objective is to explain what the Coast Guard does. I'll explain the waterborne and field safety procedures as well as answer questions like what it takes to be a rescue swimmer," said Farias. "I'll also explain our unit, which is unique because the Coast Guard has never had a port security unit like ours before."

The underlining motive of the Coast Guard, however, exceeds

personal gain. The Guard hopes to support not only themselves but all military branches.

"I'm here to explain what the Coast Guard does, and not make-up their minds for them," said Farias.

"I think the jamboree will be exciting. I'm not going to force the Coast Guard onto the kids; I think that causes rivalry between branches and I don't think that has a place here," said Farias. "I will tell the Scouts that I think it's important that they join the military—any branch."

Farias sees the jamboree not only as a chance for military exposure but also as an opportunity for the children to interact with adults at work.

"I think bringing kids and adults together is a good idea," said Farias. "The kids get to see what the adults are going through. They see that something as big as the jamboree needs teamwork in order to pull it all together."

Farias is big on teamwork and he plans to spread his message.

"You can't do something like this on your own," said Farias. "They need to know that teamwork is important, wherever you go; in the military, at the jamboree, or at their jobs. It's not about 'me! me! me!' It's about working together. That's the message I'm going to put out to these kids."

## **Quenching the flames**

By Spc. Jeff Keown

372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

The flames are sucking oxygen from your lungs, and smoke burns your eyes. Somewhere, somebody has made a terrible mistake and now a horrific blaze is raging out of control. Flames lick your heels as you flee into the arms of an Army Reservist. Thankfully, this soldier has a little experience with crisis. He's a professional firefighter with the 683rd Engineering Detachment, Pascagoula, Miss., and he's about to save your life.

No one expects to be caught in the grip of a four-alarm blaze. But if tragedy does strike here, during the 2001 National Scout Jamboree, it will be nice to know that people like these are watching out for you.

"We don't foresee any fires, but then again, you never see them coming," said Spc. Jeffrey M. McLean, a firefighter with the 683rd. "This will be a learning experience for me. I was told to expect sixty-five thousand people, now we're hearing something like four hundred thousand."

The size of this event is keeping every soldier in the 683rd on alert for fire hazards.

"With this many people in this type of weather, any incident could quickly escalate," said 1st Lt. Kevin O. Hull, commander of the 683rd.

"Our top priority is safety," said Hull. "We want to aid in providing a safe environment for the jamboree. Any training we have an opportunity for will be welcomed, but secondary," said Hull.

"Right now we're supporting and supplementing the A.P. Hill Fire Department. We'll be doing campsite and post protection," said Staff Sgt. Rodrick A. Carter, fire chief for the 683rd.

The 683rd has set up different areas for their crews to cover in an effort to cut down on response time.

"There are four sites at different locations with their own truck and crew. These are scattered around the jamboree," said Carter. "Of course, the main fire station will be the base of operations."

Carter has the utmost confidence in his soldiers with little worry about. There is no situation his people can't handle. He has attended this event once before, and he's ready for the challenges. "I'm working with a great group of guys who are highly trained and prepared individuals," said Carter.

"I'm excited about getting to participate in support of the jamboree again. I enjoyed the last jamboree and I'm looking forward to this one," Carter said

Safety is everyone's concern, soldiers, civilians and Scouts alike. Fire prevention is everybody's responsibility. However, if the worst does happen, the 683<sup>rd</sup> will there to quench the flames.

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For official business only.



Spc. Jeffrey M. McLean, a military firefighter for the 683rd Engineering Detachment, Pascagoula, Miss., opens up a water hose to test out one of his fire truck's extinguising capabilities.

Photo by Spc. Jeff Keown

### **Word Search**

S E C O N D A R Y T L A N E P E R O C S E T E L P M O C N I N R E C E I V E R E D R A U G I Y E K E D N G I E K C R E T N E C W N T R N S D I O D F K S A L U E K C I K I N N N P E R T K O R S N A P S S H V E R D C T E A M P A F A E E L C F E K O L E G I M F L R W A O P F O U L S H L E O F S S T T J W E D T B I C C D T I U I E M T D N H S U R A N I O O E E P U N T S S A P F A M N W O D H C U O T E M L E H E

BLOCK
CENTER
CHEERLEADERS
CLIPPING
CLOCK
CONVERSION
FACE MASKS
FOULS
FUMBLE
GUARD
HALF TIME
HANDOFF
HELMET

INCOMPLETE
INTERCEPTION
KICK
LINE
NFL
OFFENSE
OFFSIDE
OUT OF BOUNDS
PASS
PENALTY
PIGSKIN

HUDDLE

PLAY

PUNT
RECEIVER
REFEREE
RUSH
SACK
SCORE
SECONDARY
SNAP
SWEEP
TACKLE
TEAM
TOUCHDOWN
YARD

## Festivities/ From the front page -

the Army has been a real asset to us."

Fort A.P. Hill has been home to the National Scout Jamboree for the past 20 years. The area is not only a beautiful landscape, but it is also strategically located near Washington D.C. and several civil war era battlegrounds.

"The location here is outstanding. A.P. Hill is a great place to hold the jamboree," said Patterson, an assistant technical director for the BSA.

"We are so close to great historical sites. Some of the Scouts coming here may never have gotten the chance to see the Pentagon or the White House," said Patterson.

Almost all BSA staff are volunteers. Patterson's pay comes from the smiling faces of those who enjoy what he has helped provide for them.

"Getting the chance to see this huge crowd of BSA staff and military personnel enjoying themselves has made everything worth while," said Patterson.

The BSA enlisted the aid of an outstanding young performer to close their show. Jana took the stage amidst roars from the crowd. Her dancers moved seductively to the sweet rhythms. Her management team was impressed by the military's handling of the event.

"Everything ran smoothly," said Stephan Galfas, Jana's manager. "I was a grunt in the Army during Vietnam, and I know what



Photo by Spc. Jeffrey Keown

## Volunteers, soldiers, and Scouts gather at arena show Sunday for a festive evening.

it's like to attend a big production like this. However, it's nice to be on the other side of the stage this time."

As the evening drew to a close, it became obvious that the arena show was a big 'thank you' card from the BSA to all those who are supporting the Jamboree. The preparation of the past few days has been tiresome. Now, the excitement can begin.

## Soldiers, civilians play important part in protecting wildlife

By Spc. Jenna C. Bisenius

300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Fort A.P. Hill is teaming with wildlife, but on July 23, it will be teaming with a special kind of wild life it sees only every four years: The National Scout Jamboree. Jamboree participants are expected to include approximately 40,000 Scouts and staff members and more than 260,000 visitors.

If Fort A. P. Hill were a city with that population, it would be the eighth largest city in Virginia according to the U.S. Census Bureau web site. Which raises a concern: What impact will this sudden influx of people have on the plant and animal life that call nearly 76,000 acres of Fort A.P. Hill home?

It's questions like these that are addressed by staff members at the Directorate of Public Works, Environmental and Natural Resources Division located in building P01220 on post.

Working closely with post commander Lt. Col. John E. Dumoulin, DPW employees provide what they call "ecosystem management", according to Timothy W. Southard, Natural Resources Specialist with the DPW.

"We assess sites on post where significant size training operations are going to be taking place and then we give the results to Lt. Col. Dumoulin," he said. "For example, when the Boy Scouts first asked to have their jamboree here, we had to evaluate the areas where they would be setting up to determine what environmental concerns there might be."

Southard said that some of the things

they look for when assessing an area is whether it is of historical value or is the habitat of endangered animals, such as bald eagles. Fort A.P. Hill is currently home to approximately eight pairs of bald eagles, according to Southard.

Other animals on post include deer, groundhogs, turkeys, quail, hawks, more than 50 species of songbirds, foxes, rabbits, squirrels, raccoons, possums, blacksnakes, copperheads and even coyotes who have migrated to the area.

Protecting valuable resources on post while carrying out missions such as the National Scout Jamboree involves careful planning and coordination.

"We're here to help soldiers do their mission, whatever it is, in an environmentally safe manner," said Southard. "Part of our job is helping commanders comply with local, state and federal regulations. Luckily, commanders are more educated today about environmental issues than ever before; they are trained on it everywhere they go. That makes our job a lot easier."

Soldiers at the jamboree are careful to preserve the environment around them, according to Sgt. Randall R. Bilyeu, wheeled vehicle operator, Transportation Augmentation Detachment, 6th Battalion, Fort Eustis, Va

"Our goal is to leave the area in better condition than when we got there," he said.

Another example of soldiers' concern for the environment is given by Spc. John E. Streeter, combat engineer, 10th Engineer Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga. "Whenever possible, we try not to dig within 15 feet of a tree because that might kill it. Killing trees ruins a habitat and throws everything out of balance," he said.

The Boy Scouts, too, are playing their part according to Ed P. Kostowski, Scoutmaster, Norwalk, Conn. "The Scout staff members and Fort A.P. Hill staff have been very careful to make sure that the percentage of land we use is minimal so that the impact on the environment is lessened."



Photo by Spc. Jenna C. Bisenius

Making sure drip pans are placed beneath vehicles before performing maintenance is one way soldiers like Spc. James A. Lewis, truck driver, TAD, 6th Bn., help to protect the environment.

# The Information Board

## **July 23, 2001**

- U.S. Navy Leapfrogs, 11:30 to 11:50 a.m. and 3 to 3:30 p.m.
  Stage Show
- Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, noon to 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 to 3 p.m. Stage Show
- 214th Ground Forces Band, 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. International Stage and 2 to 3 p.m. Army Adventure Area
- 319th Army Band, 12:30 to 1:15 p.m.
  Wilcox Dining Hall
  and 4 to 5 p.m.
  Army Adventure Area
- 85th Division Band, 1 to 2 p.m. Army Adventure Area

## July 24, 2001

- The "ARMY" Balloon, 7:30 to 9:15 a.m. Daily Ceremony
- Commander in Chief's Guard, **7:30** to **9:15 a.m.**Daily Ceremony
- 214<sup>th</sup> Ground Forces Band, **7:30** to **9:15 a.m.** Daily Ceremony
- Cannon, **7:30** to **9:15 a.m.**Daily Ceremony
- 85th Division Band, 9 to 10 a.m., 1 to 2 p.m. and 4 to 5 p.m.

  Army Adventure Area
- 319th Army Band, 9 to 10 a.m. Stage Show Area and 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. International Stage
- USA Dragster, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thomas Road

- CINC Guard, 10 to 1030 a.m. Army Adventure Area
- 82nd Airborne Division Chorus, 11 a.m. to noon and 3 to 4 p.m.
   Army Adventure Area
- U.S. Navy Drill Team, 11 to 11:30 a.m. and 2 to 2:30 p.m. Stage Show
- 214th Ground Forces Band, 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Heth Dining Hall and 12:30 to 1:15 p.m. Longstreet Dining Hall

### **Odds and Ends**

#### **BDU Laundry Service:**

Building 1632, Wilcox Camp POC: Sgt. Hawkins: 633-8683

#### **Turn-in times:**

Tuesday, July 24: 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday, July 26: 7 to 9 p.m.

#### Pick-up times:

Friday, July 27: 7 to 9 p.m. Monday, July 30: 7 to 9 p.m.

## **Important Times**

**DFAC** ... Wilcox

Breakfast ... 5:30 to 8 a.m. Lunch ... Box lunch picked up at breakfast Dinner ... 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Swing Shift ... 11:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

#### PX ...Wilcox

Monday through Saturday  $\dots 10$  a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday  $\dots 2$  to 7 p.m.

#### SICK CALL ... Wilcox

Daily ... 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

#### Swimming Pool ... HQ Area

Monday through Friday ...Noon to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday ... 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

# And the band played on....

By Spc. Jeffrey S. Keown

372nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

usic screams and shouts at the passing soldiers in the Wilcox Camp here. A little white building that resembles a garage is coming alive with the sounds of a marching band. Drums, woodwinds and brass instruments begin to melt into a unified roar of beautiful musical ballet.

American military bands have been tooting their horns since little drummer boys banged cadence for troops during the Revolutionary War. Here, at the 2001 National Scout Jamboree, the Army has called in her reserves. The 319th Army Band, Fort Totten, N.Y., entirely populated by reservists, brought their noise makers from the Big Apple on the back of an eighteen-wheeler. They plan to spend the next two weeks entertaining Scouts wherever they might encounter them.

"We want to do our job to the best of our ability," said Chief Warrant Officer Stephen C. Josephs, commander of the 319th. "Our mission is the entertainment of troops, now we'll be entertaining the Scouts. We are here to basically support the jamboree by providing music during daytime events such as ceremonies and lunch."

Although the task at hand for the 319th isn't easy, they expect to have a little fun with their music.

"This mission is going to be a lot of work, but we're trying to be super prepared so we can have fun with it," said Josephs. "The key to having fun is preparation. When things run smoothly everyone can sit



Photo by Spc. Jeffrey S. Keown

#### Sgt. Samuel T. Hunte, a trumpet player for the 319th, blasts out a jazzy rhythm.

back and enjoy the flow."

The Scouts will be enjoying that flow throughout the jamboree. They might even find themselves eating lunch to the sounds of familiar show tunes and movie soundtracks.

"We're going to be playing in Boy Scout mess halls to give them some music to dine by," said 1st Sgt. Roberto A. Stuart, the 319th's 1st Sgt. "We hope to make the Scouts' chow line seem a little shorter by playing them a few tunes."

The morale of these players seems indestructible. The rehearsal begins and no one has a chair. They play their hearts out in

the steamy, crowded garage-like building with smiles and grins.

"I've gotten to meet lots of people from playing at so many different events," said Sgt. Hope M. Harrell, a member of the 319th. "I've got the best job in the Army, getting paid to do what I love."

The rehearsal ends and the soldier musicians pack up for lunch. Somebody gets tasked to find chairs before the next practice. The room clears out except for Staff Sgt. George R. Masone, the 319th's guitar player. His sweet rhythms drift lazily away into the warm afternoon.

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the AAFT to their jumping point, which was 10,000 feet, and was flown by the pilots of the Delaware Army National Guard.

The Huey, also known as the UH-1H is the oldest helicopter in the United States Army today. The first production of these helicopters was between 1960 and 1972. Since then, the Hueys have been constantly rebuilt to keep up their condition. The Huey is labeled as a Vietnam Era helicopter. The Army plans to fade out the Hueys in 2004.

"I enjoy flying the Huey because of its rich history," stated 1Lt. Peter M. Emerson, pilot, also from the Delaware Army National Guard. "It's a great helicopter, it's just old." The helicopter is mainly used in the support of media with photo missions, designated VIP flights, and parachute drops.

"I love this job," stated Staff Sgt. Tommy J. Sullivan, team leader of the AAFT, located in Fort Bragg, N.C. Sullivan also attended the last NSJ, in 1997 as a parachuter. "Whether I perform in front of a crowd of one or 50,000, I love it," said Sullivan. "The most interesting and rewarding part about this job is when we get to perform at functions like this one."

"We perform just about every weekend during the summer," said

Staff Sgt. Harold Meyers, parachuter, 82D Airborne All American Freefall Team, Fort Bragg, N.C.

"When we are not doing demonstrations we are training at our local drop zone."

"Our team is wonderful. We get off work on a Friday and by that evening we are in a plane or in a vehicle to our next demonstration. By Sunday we are back on our way home to get some sleep and we are ready to go at 6:30 a.m. for PT," said Meyers.

According to Sullivan, the AAFT works hand in hand with the recruiters and also as a recruiting tool for the Golden Knights.

"We go to high schools every so often," said Sullivan.

The AAFT has performed in football games, baseball games, and even in the Special Olympics.

The show ends when the parachuters hit the target successfully and they are greeted by thousands of people with looks of astonishment on their faces.

"I was a Boy Scout when I was young and I think, for the Scouts to experience something like this is great. Any organization that teaches values and leadership should be acknowledged and I am astonished to be able to participate in it," said Sullivan.